

In the drawings:

Please find attached a revised Figure 8 which shows the addition of element number 95 to the figure. This drawing has been identified as an "Annotated Mark-Up Drawing". Once a formal Notice of Allowance has been issued Applicant will provide a replacement sheet of Figures 8-10.

REMARKS

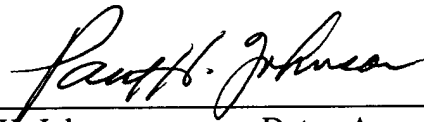
Remaining in the case are Claims 1-9. Claims 1-3 have been withdrawn from consideration and are subject to the filing of a divisional application. Claims 4-8 have been rejected by Examiner Boles under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Snyder in view of Weck. To more particularly define over the patents to Snyder and Weck, Claim 4, the independent claim remaining in the case, has been amended. In addition, the specification has been amended by adding a sentence to Page 15 that identifies the integral ring portion 95 that surrounds central opening 80. The radial air slot openings 84 extend between ring portion 95 and the outer circumferential portion of the diffuser near the smudge ring 82. Integral toroidal ring portion 95 is important to diffuser 38 in that it adds significant structural rigidity. Ring portion 95 is clearly and prominently shown in Figures 6, 8 and 9 of the drawings. The addition to the specification does not add any new matter to the disclosure.

Claim 4 has been amended to specifically include ring portion 95 by providing that the structure constituting the diffuser has “a circumferential outer edge and a central opening surrounded by an integral ring portion, the central opening being dimensioned to accommodate an electrical junction box, and having a plurality of punched out radial fins extending from said ring portion to near said circumferential outer edge, each fin being bent to extend at a common angle to the plane of the structure, a radially extending air slot opening being formed by each punched out fin.” This description clearly defines the diffuser as best seen in Figures 8, 9 and 11. The patent to Weck has been used to reject Claim 4 as initially presented. Examiner Boles states that “Weck discloses the presence of a generally planar, integral, circular structure formed of thin, rigid material and having a circumferential outer edge and a central opening dimensioned

to accommodate an electrical junction box, and having a plurality of radially extending fins, each bent to extend at a common angle to the plane of the structure and a radially extending air slot opening in conjunction with each fin. (See Fig. 2).” The fins in Weck are cantilevered and are each free to flex at their inner end. This is in contrast with the present invention in which each fin is supported at each opposite end. It is easy to see the significant improvement provided by the ring portion 95.

Since Claim 4 as amended clearly defines a structure not taught or suggested by Weck, it is therefore believed that Claim 4, and the claims which depend from it should be in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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Fig. 10

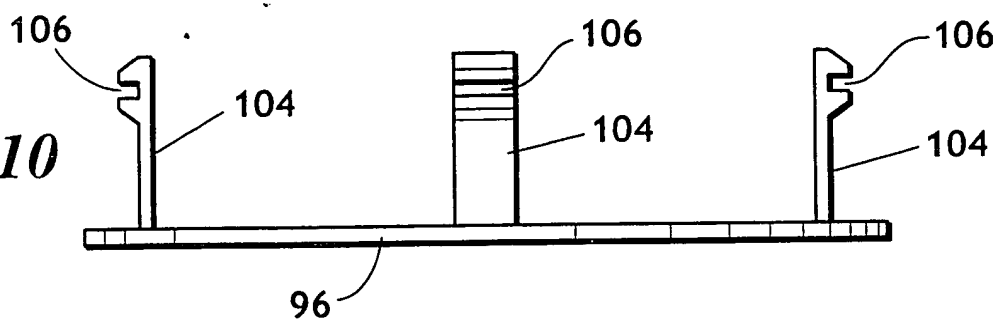


Fig. 9

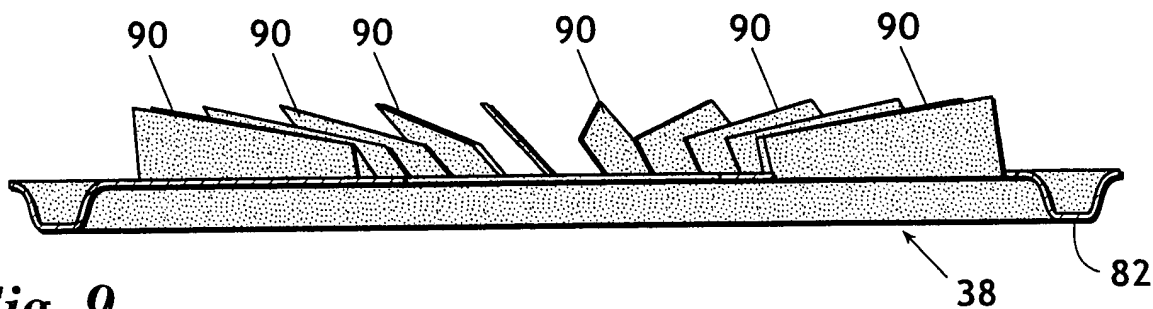


Fig. 8

